



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Chairman Jerome E. Horton

4th District – Los Angeles

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BOE Chairman Jerome E. Horton Commends Governor, Assemblywoman Ma for AB 199: Contributions of Filipino Veterans

Jerome E. Horton, Chairman of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE), today announced his commendation to Assemblywoman Fiona Ma for sponsoring, and Governor Jerry Brown for signing, Assembly Bill (AB) 199.

AB 199 will help ensure that the contributions of Filipino veterans who fought alongside American troops are properly recognized and remembered by future generations.

"I am proud that, as a member of the California State Assembly, I sponsored AB 2512, a bill that would have included the very significant role Filipinos played in World War II in our educational curriculum," Horton said. "While the Governor, at that time, did not sign AB 2512, I am delighted that Assemblywoman Ma reintroduced the measure and Governor Brown signed it into law."

AB 199, the "Filipinos in WWII Social Studies Curriculum Act," is the first step toward ensuring that social science instruction in grades 7-12 includes the significant role of Filipinos in World War II. The bill helps ensure that our children and future generations learn of the contributions and sacrifice of these brave Filipino soldiers before we lose them in history.

According to Assemblywoman Ma's recent announcement, "When my bill was first introduced in 2004, 98 Filipino WWII veterans were still alive to tell their stories. Today, there are only 17."

"I believe it is important for our young people to learn and know about the important role Filipinos have played in our nation's history," Horton concluded. "Filipinos made significant contributions during WWII and their brave service continues to this day with our nation's involvement in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and elsewhere."

Elected in 2010, Chairman Jerome E. Horton is the Fourth District Member of the California State Board of Equalization, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the Board of Equalization Legislative Committee chairman. He is the first person to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience at the BOE. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization collects more than \$50 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

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